"Strike Me Pink" Starring Eddie Cantor, Opens at Loew's, Toronto

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

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Better than "Naughty Marietta"!

Jeanette MacDONALD

Nelson EDDY

in

ROSE MARIE

YOU'LL BE SINGING IT.

"ROSE MARIE I LOVE YOU!"

PUBLISHED BY

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED

259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

Jeanette
Nelson
MacDONALD-EDDY
ROSE MARIE
Makes "Naughty Marietta" look like a quickie!
in Jan. and Feb.
Clark
Jean
Myrna
GABLE-HARLOW-LOY
WIFE vs. SECRETARY
The picture that will echo 'round and 'round!
in Feb. and March
Janet
Robert
GAYNOR-TAYLOR
SMALL TOWN GIRL
Read your favorite newspaper.
The world knows this one!
in March
THE GREAT ZIEGFELD
The cast of stars is too big to list. The greatest musical since creation!
in March and April
Norma
Leslie
John
SHEARER-HOWARD-BARRYMORE
ROMEO and JULIET
WAIT!
in March and April
MARCH ON LEO!

"He Was My Friend"

NO sadder news has reached me at London, then the news that Sydney Cohen had answered the Last Call. I was closely associated with Sydney Cohen for several years, and knew him very well. He was my friend.

Sydney Cohen was a good man, because his impulses were all good. His judgment of business values most excellent, his judgment of people not good, because of a very pronounced trait in his make-up of suspicion. He made friends quickly and easily, but through his fear of being "double-crossed", he lost friends, and made enemies. Perhaps he learned, early in life, that "double-crossers" exist, and that they are not particularly concerned about whom they "double-cross". Destined to be an Idealist, he handicapped some of his finest impulses by a loss of his faith in Mankind.

He was shrewd, a brilliant and magnetic speaker, a keen business man, he loved to make money, but he also loved, to an equal degree, to give money away to philanthropies.

THE LATE SYDNEY S. COHEN

He was a Big Brother to thousands of children, strangers, that he was kind to his own family, is but natural, his charities and philanthropies were as varied as they were numerous, and regardless of colour, or of creed, he dispensed his charities with personal attention, and with an equal ardour.

He helped many a man and woman to success, and gave Mr. Wm. Fox, one of his closest and earliest friends in Motion Pictures, some excellent advice on many occasions, advice which would have been of great benefit to Mr. Fox had he but been guided by it.

Mr. Wm. Fox helped Sydney Cohen when the latter was "growing up", in a business way, and Sydney Cohen never forgot to help Mr. Fox.

He was a great believer in the Independence of the Exhibitor, sincerely in earnest, and fought with strength, money, and time for the preservation of the Independents of our Industry, regardless that such battles were to his personal advantage.

He believed in the preservation, and support of the Independent producer; and Mr. Cohen is responsible, to a marked degree, for the continuance of Independent Effort in an Industry, which, in an unripe and disorganized, immature state, was heading towards Monopoly, and which, Monopolized, would have become "flat, stale and unprofitable".

Some of our greatest Showmen have been the Independents, some of our greatest producers and productions have come from Independents. Sydney Cohen helped to tide over the Independents during a period, in which they might have been submerged, and he certainly fought, selfishly, or unselfishly, one's summing up of such effort is perhaps based on a personal interpretation of the need of the "greatest good to the greatest number", for FAIR PLAY IN OUR INDUSTRY OF MOTION PICTURES.

I worked with him over a period of several years, in organizing the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, of Canada, in affiliating the Canadian Association, and on plans, for organizing the British Exhibitors, and bringing their organizations into affiliation with the American organizations. How well, I remember the visit of the late Mr. Gavazzi-King, and of Major Gale, and the group of exhibitors from Great Britain, who came to several of the Theatre Owners Conventions in America, and Canada.

I worked with Mr. Sydney Cohen in the establishment of the Play Date Bureau for the purpose of stimulating Trade between Independent Producers and Exhibitors.

Close to £50,000 was contributed to the Play Date Bureau Fund by Independents, and, if some of these Exhibitors and Producers, who gave their money to the fund, had been as sincere to trade with each other, to establish mutual profitable trade relationships, the picture Industry might have developed differently, but "Politics", like the old Serpent of Biblical History, came into the Garden and did a great deal of tempting successfully.

Being a powerful personality, Sydney Cohen's likes and dislikes were as big as he was, and he was a big man. Although he carried a "grudge", he could be talked out of it, and when Ex-Governor Al Smith desired Mr. Sydney Cohen to help in the campaign to make Mr. James (Jimmy) Walker, Mayor of New York, Mr. Sydney Cohen forgot that he and Jimmy Walker had fought for the presidency of the M.P.T.O.A., that they had called each other "liar" publicly, in debate; they met again, shook hands, and carried on as friends.

When I read that Mr. Sydney Cohen had dropped dead on the street, I was pained, but not surprised. He had a prodigious capacity for work, and he gave himself very little rest. No machine, human, or made of steel could keep up the pace of his drive. He liked clever people, fast thinkers, he liked to see them succeed, he liked to help them financially, and he is responsible for the success of several persons in this Industry, whom he financed to success without coming into the picture.

His theatres were successful, his real estate deals were successful, his department store ventures were successful; as he grew older, he grew richer, more philanthropic, it is a pity he could not have lived to the three score and ten, for he would have pyramided his charities and philanthropies year by year.

I remember one particular deal on which he worked, prior to Mr. Sam Katz' association with Mr. Adolph Zukor, and the addition of Publix to the Paramount trademark. If that deal had gone through the whole story of the Motion Picture Industry would have been written differently. But Mr. Zukor won over Mr. Wm. Fox.

Mr. Cohen was a widower, he leaves one son and daughter to mourn a father, who was devoted to his children, motherless, when they were not far removed from babyhood, and he tried to be mother-father to them.

We did not always agree upon Picture policies, I could not always dislike those whom he disliked, but I always liked his friends. I feel that the Industry of Motion Pictures has lost one of its best friends and representatives, that the Jewish people have lost a man, who never tired of working for their welfare, and protection, in the United States and in foreign countries, and that the United States has lost, in his passing away, a very fine citizen, of whom it might be said, "Well done, good and faithful servant".

—RAY LEWIS.

Four New Theatres Being Built in Toronto

Ray Presents

(Continued from page 4)

the best boost which the American Film Industry can give for British Films.

Of course, The Digest belongs to that Rube from Canada, who is always handing out free advice and ideas, and anything free in the world today, is worth just as much as you pay for it, so don't quote me.

I'll be seeing you soon, sometime this month, and do I think that a smart showman can make money in the United Kingdom? Come to one of the Trade Shows and count the Rolls Royce cars, exhibitors drive them; and the publicity department of the Rolls Royce company told me, that they wish they could stop advertising, because they do not desire any more business, they cannot fill all the orders on hand, if they worked day and night, for the next year.

MEANWHILE talking of a rush of business, "Mutiny on the Bounty" has a line-up, at the Empire Theatre, Leicester Square, which goes around, and around, and around the corner, enough to make Leo sing "This is my Jubilee"; and at the Leicester Square Theatre, where Robert Donat is appearing in the Rene Clair production, "The Ghost Goes West", the crowds will give this company enough in receipts to inspire Korda to even greater success.

At the Carlton, "Top Hat", closes a fourteen weeks, plus one day, run, and the business has been top, which should not be hard to take for RKO. The Fred Astaire-Ginger Rogers combination has certainly been a money team.

It has been raining "dough" for Garbo's "Anna Karenina" also, and "The Tunnel" — G-B's Maurice Elvey picture. It has also been RAINING! The Thames River, in case you do not know, has been rising, but the rain should worry if the whole of England is likely to lie under water. The floods have been very bad, but when four o'clock comes, rain or floods, it's time for tea; and no one looks forward to a cup of it more than I do.

Without tea, well, you just couldn't take it, but as they say here, things could be worse, there is tradition, and education is covering a much larger area than it did for many years; and Public Opinion, as represented by the United Kingdom, made Parliament take notice of a King and the rights of his people, away off in Abyssinia.

LONDON offers so many interesting things to the Observer; and despite fog, rain, no sunshine, damp, no central heating as we know its conveniences and warmth, in America, where in all the world, could you go, but to London, to hear the following?

A woman was talking her Daschund for her constitutional, that is the dog's constitutional, along Berkeley Street, Mayfair district, London, one evening, in the rain, when I heard her say to the dog, which was hesitating to come along, "Come along, Madonna, hurry".

I was sitting in a cafe, having a cup of coffee, when I heard an author, tell of his lectures in America, by the way, he liked the Americans, although one of the professors, at a lecture given for a few thousand teachers, asked this author if he could give six of his lectures, as incorporated into one, "The American woman is so intelligent she can easily grasp such a combination of subjects", he said.

His listeners, a young man and his wife, with accents which sounded like Oxford, with a case of tonsilitis, included, were very attentive.

The author then related, that he had used a plane to travel from one point to California, and was badly bruised, when the plane turned over several times, at which the young man said, "Wasn't it lovely that you came back at all".

The author then related, that his baby girl was eight months old, she roars with laughter all the time, never cries (its father must be telling stories about America), whereupon the wife of the young man exclaimed, "Splendid".

AND there are a few of the reasons for my staying so long in London; I must not forget to tell you that Charles Weiner, of the Bijou, Winnipeg, came to see me. We talked about the United Artists, and theatres in Canada. Mr. Weiner should be able to tell you a good deal about the United Kingdom, he's been going places.

The draping in royal purple and black at the main door of the Film Exchange Building Toronto — one of the examples of deep mourning in motion picture circles.

The Ten Best Pictures of 1935

As Selected by the Nation's Picture Critics.

	Votes
David Copperfield—Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer	339
The Lives of a Bengal Lancer—Paramount	278
The Informer—RKO Radio	256
Naughty Marietta—Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer	250
Les Miserables—United Artists-Zanuck	235
Ruggles of Red Gap—Paramount	222
Top Hat—RKO Radio	174
Broadway Melody of 1936—Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer	166
Roberta—RKO Radio	155
Anna Karenina—Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer	129

British Capitalists Offer $11,000,000 for Purchase of Universal Studios